

**House of Representatives
Education
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2004**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE
June 29	TBA	Spokane Convention Center	Full Committee	Achievement Gap - Meet with school superintendents and principals during their summer conference to discuss effective strategies for raising the achievement of students who are members of groups in the achievement gap and workload issues impacting schools and teachers in meeting the students' instructional needs.	Work Session
June 29	TBA	Spokane	Full Committee Joint with Children & Family Services	Early learning - Discussion of issues with early learning and child care providers.	Work Session
September 22	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	(1) Recruitment and retention of teachers. (2) Civics education - effective strategies for teaching civics.	Work Session
September 23	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Accountability - Consider agency reports required by 3ESHB 2195.	Work Session
December 1	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee Full Committee Joint with Juvenile Justice & Family Law	(1) Interim Synthesis - Explore policy options on the elimination of the achievement gap, school readiness, and accountability. (2) School drop-outs - the data, the reasons, effective prevention and retrieval programs, and the interaction of schools and the juvenile justice system.	Work Session/Jt. Work Session
December 2	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Accountability - Consider agency reports required by 3ESHB 2195 and discuss session priorities.	Work Session

Note: See also Appropriations Committee interim plan - Work Group on K-12 Finance.

Project Title: Elimination of the Achievement Gap

Project Goal:

Explore policy options that have proven effective in helping teachers and schools raise the achievement of all children, including children in groups that have historically underachieved in education.

Project Description:

The Committee will examine:

1. Schools and school districts that are exhibiting success in raising the achievement of students who are members of groups in the achievement gap.
2. The research on effective strategies for raising student achievement.
3. The research on instructional approaches used in countries in which students are performing at the highest levels on the International Math and Science Examination.
4. Policy options the legislation may consider to help teachers and schools raise the achievement of all students, including students who are members of groups in the achievement gap.
5. Possible legislation for the 2005 session.

Number & Type of Meetings: 2 work sessions

Completion Date: December 15, 2004

Staff Assigned: Morrissey, Forrester

Project Title: Early Learning

Project Goal:

The Committee will examine policies that will help children with the readiness skills they need to be successful in the early years of school.

Project Description:

The committee will:

1. Join the Children and Family Services Committee at one meeting with early learning and child care providers to discuss issues and concerns related to helping children with the readiness skills they need to be successful in the early years of school.
2. Review the research on school readiness and explore policy options that address the research.
3. Prepare possible legislation for the 2005 session.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 31, 2004

Staff Assigned: Forrester; Morrissey

Project Title: Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Project Goal:

Explore issues that facilitate the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers.

Project Description:

The committee will examine the issues that facilitate or inhibit the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers. The examination will include the results and recommendations of recent studies and the role of compensation and work load issues in the recruitment and retention of teachers.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: September 2004

Staff Assigned: Morrissey, Forrester

Project Title: Civics Education

Project Goal:

Review the efforts of school districts, the state, and national organizations to increase the civics skills and knowledge of K-12 students.

Project Description:

The committee will review:

1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction's efforts to define the essential academic learning requirements in civics and to pilot model classroom-based assessments of those requirements; and
2. The recommendations of national organizations and experts about ways to enhance the understanding of students about the state and nation's foundational documents and the ways students can contribute to the civic life in their communities.

Number & Type of Meetings: one work session

Completion Date: September, 2004

Staff Assigned: morrissey

Project Title: Accountability

Project Goal:

The Committee will consider accountability policies with an emphasis on policies that will recognize the accomplishments of schools and school districts that raise achievement, especially the achievement of students in groups that are included in the achievement gap.

Project Description:

The committee will examine:

1. The findings and recommendations of studies required by 3ESHB 2195. The studies include information on the validity and reliability of the high school assessment system, the performance standards to be used to determine whether students have been successful on the WASL and whether high school students have achieved a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual achievement, and other 2004 reports required by the legislation.
2. The school accountability provisions included in the state's current laws.
3. The accountability provisions included in the federal "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001".
4. Accountability measures used by other states to recognize successful schools and districts.
5. A list of policy options, with an emphasis on options that could be used by the state to recognize the successful efforts of schools and districts to raise student achievement, especially the achievement of students in groups that are included in the achievement gap.
6. Possible legislation for the 2005 session.

Number & Type of Meetings: 3 work sessions

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Morrissey; Forrester

Project Title: Drop-out Prevention

Project Goal:

Educate the committee on the issue of drop-out prevention and potential solutions

Project Description:

The committee will explore the reasons for the high drop-out rates in the state. The study will include an examination of:

1. The drop-out rate by demographic group;
2. The reasons students drop-out of school;
3. Effective drop-out prevention and retrieval programs; and
4. Interactions between schools and the justice system.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Hallum, Hutcheson, Forrester, Morrissey
